

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed February 23, 2005. Claims 1-8 are currently pending in the application. By this amendment, Claims 1-3 and 5-8 have been amended. No new matter or issues are believed to be introduced by this amendment. In view of the amendments above and the remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Accordingly, early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,330,597 (hereinafter Collin).

Independent Claim 1 has been amended herein to better define Applicant's invention over Collins. Claim 1 now recites limitations and/or features which are not disclosed by Collins.

Claim 1 as amended herein recites:

A method of enabling to configure a home network that has a data processing device and a network access device for access to an external network, the method comprising the acts of:

monitoring communication between the data processing device and the access device; and

extracting information from the monitored communication for configuring an interface situated between the data processing device of the home network and the access device.

Collins does not disclose or suggest configuring an interface situated between the data processing device of the home network and the access device, as recited in Claim 1. Instead, Collins teaches in the abstract: "a communication system for monitoring, controlling or configuring communication parameters of a remote communication device from a local communication system or a local communication device from a remote communication system". That is, Collins is directed to overcoming a problem of the prior art of diagnosing inefficiencies in communication parameters of a computer communication system which is time consuming and frustrating for those involved. For example, Collins discloses at Col. 2, lines 54-64, a process of configuring the internal settings of a second modem based on information obtained regarding the data stream between the first modem and the second modem.

In sharp contrast to Collins, communications are monitored between a data processing device and an access device to extract information to configure an interface. The extracted information is used to configure the interface (i.e., intermediary device) which is situated between the data processing device of the home network and the access device. Claim 1 as amended recites in part, *extracting information from the monitored communication for configuring an interface situated between the data processing device of the home network and the access device*. It is respectfully submitted that Collins is

silent with respect to configuring an interface situated between a data processing device of a home network and the access device.

As a further point of distinction, Collins only teaches communication between respective communication devices, i.e., a first communication device and a second communication device. For example, Collins teaches in one embodiment communications between a local modem and a remote modem. Neither of which may be fairly characterized as a data processing device such as a computer. As such, Collins does not teach or disclose communication between a data processing device (e.g., computer) and an access device, as recited in Claim 1.

A critical point of distinction is that by configuring the interface, it therefore becomes unnecessary to reconfigure the data processing device. Par 007 of the specification supports this critical distinction.

[0007] Further, the extracted information can be used to make the interface appear to be the Internet access device as seen from the Internet appliance, and as the Internet appliance as seen from the Internet access device. In this case, no reconfiguration of the appliance is necessary. More appliances may now be added on the user's home network, using network address translation (NAT) or similar techniques, to make them appear to be a single appliance on the Internet. The interface can also have a DHCP server functionality to dynamically assign IP addresses to the appliances on the home network.

A key advantage of configuring only the interface is cited in par. 007 wherein it is stated that more appliances may be later added and made to appear to be a single appliance on the Internet. The flexibility afforded in monitoring communications and using the

extracted information to reconfigure an interface is nowhere taught or suggested in Collins.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) with respect to Claims 1 and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-4 contain the limitations of Claim 1 and are believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons given for Claim 1 above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and allowance of Claims 2-4 is respectfully requested.

Independent Claims 5 and 8 as amended, recite similar subject matter as Claim 1 and therefore contain the limitations of Claim 1. Hence, for at least the same reasons given for Claim 1, Claims 5 and 8 are believed to be allowable over Collins. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and allowance of Claims 5 and 8 is respectfully requested.

Claims 6-7 depend from independent Claim 5 and therefore contain the limitations of Claim 5 and is believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons given for Claim 5 above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and allowance of Claims 6-7 is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner should have any questions concerning this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to call Dicron Halajian, Esq., Intellectual Property Counsel, Philips Electronics North America, at 914-333-9607

Respectfully submitted,



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